



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND HEADQUARTERS  
1421 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY  
ARLINGTON VA 22243

IN REPLY REFER TO

NAVAIRINST 5215.12A  
AIR-3.1.8  
1 Nov 96

NAVAIR INSTRUCTION 5215.12A

From: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND TECHNICAL DIRECTIVES SYSTEM

- (a) OPNAVINST 4790.2F, The Naval Aviation Maintenance Program (NAMP)
- (b) OPNAVINST 8600.2B, The Naval Airborne Weapons Maintenance Program (NAWMP)
- (c) NAVAIR 00-25-300, Management and Procedures Manual, Naval Air Systems Command Technical Directives System 1 Sept 1996
- (d) NAVAIRINST 5216.11B Red Stripe Memorandum System 28 Mar 1995

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes a Technical Directives (TDs) system for use by the Naval Air Systems Team. TDs are documents issued by the Naval Air Systems Command to provide technical information necessary to properly and systematically inspect or alter the configuration of aircraft, engines, systems, weapons or equipment.

2. Cancellation. NAVAIRINST 5215.12 dated 16 January 1990. Since this is a major revision, changes are not indicated.

3. Scope. The TD system is the only authorized medium for directing the modification or the accomplishment of one-time inspections of Naval aircraft and associated equipment.

4. Policy. Naval aircraft and associated equipment are to be maintained in a configuration which ensures safety and affordable material readiness. The TD system is an important element in achieving this objective. It is also an integral part of the Naval Aviation Maintenance Programs as outlined in references (a) and (b). The TD system shall be implemented and managed in accordance with reference (c).

5. Guidance

a. Modifications to aircraft, airborne weapons systems, and associated trainers and support equipment within the Navy shall be made only upon the receipt of approved TDs with the following exceptions. Operational Commanders can make one prototype installation of a proposed modification when authorized by Type Commander/controlling custodian. TDs are not required for modifications which only affect production aircraft or are to be installed on an attrition basis as defined in reference (c)

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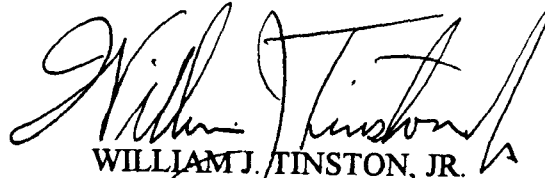
b. NAVAIR issues four types of TDs: Formal, Interim, Rapid Action Minor Engineering Changes (RAMEC) and Bulletins. All TDs will be issued by the Commander NAVAIR, or by Program Managers, Air (PMAs) who have been chartered to hold their own Change Control Boards (CCBs), and have been certified to sign technical directives. These PMAs may authorize the leaders of Fleet Support Teams (FSTs), formerly known as In-Service Support Teams (ISSTs), to issue bulletins which do not restrict flight operations by requiring compliance before further flight, preflight-turn-around, or daily inspection, or within the next ten-flight hours. Bulletin TDs shall not be used to effect technical manual changes (e.g., to establish continuing inspection requirements). Such changes shall be made via the established technical manual updating process.

c. All TDs which significantly impact fleet operations due to imposition of flight/operational restrictions or severe/unique impact on logistic support shall be processed as "Grounding TDs" and shall be forwarded to the cognizant PMA and to the Assistant Commander for Logistics (AIR 3.0) for action. Approval of AIR 00, and the appropriate concurrence of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) are required before issuing "Grounding TDs". The CNO and CMC, as appropriate, shall be advised of the cause and effect of the pending action using a Red Stripe memorandum in accordance with reference (d). All "Grounding TDs" shall be coordinated with TYCOMS before release.

d. All TDs requiring compliance actions by Navy activities shall be verified prior to issuance, with the following exceptions: Type Commanders/controlling custodians may waive verification of RAMEC TDs; and Assistant Commander for Logistics (AIR-3.0), or designee, may waive verification of interim, formal and bulletin TDs. Record purpose changes and those which are originated by a depot and installed by the same depot or depot field team or are originated by a contractor and installed by the same contractor or contractor field team using an "installation data package", are not required to be verified.

6. Responsibilities. Assistant Commander for Logistics (AIR-3.0) is responsible for implementing and managing the NAVAIR TD System. Assistant Commander for Research and Engineering (AIR-4.0) is responsible for the engineering content of TDs. PMAs and Assistant Program Managers for Logistics (APMLs) are responsible for planning and managing implementation of TDs for assigned aircraft/systems, including coordination, TD verification compliance, and the delivery of associated logistics support.

7. Action. Addressees shall take appropriate action to ensure compliance with this instruction and with the detailed implementing processes contained in reference (c).



WILLIAM J. TINSTON, JR.  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Assistant Commander  
for Logistics

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